



Certified Public Accountants
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COMPUTING SOLUTIONS BY JANICE ADDI



This newsletter and back issues are available at our site on the web. Just browse to the Eugene page of our website and click on the "Computing Solutions" icon

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NEW PRODUCT ALERT

New products have been released by both MYOB and QuickBooks, but each was aimed at a different market. QuickBooks has released its Enterprise Solution for larger businesses, while MYOB has produced FirstEdge, a business management tool for very small, or very new, Mac-based businesses.

QuickBooks' Enterprise Solutions Business Management Software is designed for current QuickBooks clients who need more capacity and improved performance. It performs all the same functions as QuickBooks 2002, but also offers the following:

10 software licenses are included with the purchase, so up to 10 users can work simultaneously. There is also faster simultaneous user performance, so users can work without waiting while others are searching for transactions or running reports.

You can add up to 30,000 customers, products and vendors. That's twice as many as QuickBooks 2002.

If you think you are outgrowing QuickBooks, you should look this product over. The cost for both new users and up-graders is \$2,500.00. Support is an additional \$1,000.00 per year, which includes 12 calls to a 24 hour, 7 day per week toll free number, free automatic upgrades and a "free" 60 minute set-up call. The price seems high, but it probably is less expensive to upgrade to this product than to purchase different accounting software and retrain staff to use it. If you want to inquire further, call 1-800-811-8943 or go to www.quickbooks.com.

MYOB FirstEdge is a basic accounting product for Mac OS 8.6, 9.x and Mac OS X. It's very easy to set up, learn and use and is affordably priced. This product would be suitable for one or two person offices, freelancers and very small organizations that use a Macintosh for business. FirstEdge is really a smaller version of AccountEdge. It can be used for quotes, invoices and receivables, check writing and printing and

or the to-do list. In addition, it is not suitable for running in a multi-user environment, nor can you export to Microsoft Word and Excel.

MYOB FirstEdge is available for \$99.00. The cost includes a "free" pre-recorded product introduction. 90 days of toll free technical telephone support can be purchased for an additional \$49.00, or an annual support program can be obtained for



basic job tracking. Though FirstEdge tracks sales, sales taxes, expenses and bank transactions, it does not include many of the other AccountEdge features. FirstEdge does not come with payroll, inventory management, time billing, multi-currency, accounts payable functions

\$189.00. There is also a pay-by-call support program, which charges \$4.00 per minute for every support call, with a minimum of \$40.00 charged for each call.

If you want to find out more about this product, go to www.myob.com/us or call them toll free at

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES TO USERS

QUICKBOOKS USERS:

Did you know that if you hit Control + Y when working on a transaction, a transaction journal will appear that shows what accounts were hit and for what amounts? Try it.

Also, don't forget that when you are in a numerical field, you can turn that field into a calculator. This is truly a time saving function. Just enter the first number and the operator (for example +, -, *, /) to begin the calculation.

Are you running slowly using QuickBooks in multi-user mode? If so, there is a troubleshooting guide available on the QuickBooks website. Go to the following link:

http://www.intuitadvisor.com/products_services/quickbooks_financial_solutions/quickbooks_multiuser_modesys.html

Release 4 of QuickBooks 2002, QuickBooks Pro 2002 and QuickBooks Premier 2002 is now available. You can update automatically by clicking on "File" and "Update" in QuickBooks.

Intuit has added a new product to it's line, Intuit FundWare. It is designed specifically for Nonprofit companies and is sold for either single or multiple users. It is sold by the module, so that companies can add modules as needed and don't have to purchase the entire package at once. Call 1-800-551-4458 or go to <http://publicsector.intuit.com/info> for more information.

QuickBooks Point of Sale software is also available now. This POS software makes it fast and easy to ring up sales, track inventory and process credit cards. Call QuickBooks' toll free number 1-800-236-9501 to inquire about this product. It's not currently available for sale online.



MYOB USERS:

Many people who use MYOB are not currently using "identifiers", and do not know what they are. Identifiers are single-letter characters that allow you to group your MYOB cards in different ways. Once grouped, reports can be run by selecting certain identifiers. For example, you could assign a "W" for wholesale and a "R" for retail customers. Then you can print a list or write a customized letter just to the wholesale group by choosing the "W" identifier when running reports, etc.

Has your unemployment rate changed for the last two quarters of 2002? If so, MYOB will not calculate your unemployment accrual correctly. After a lengthy phone conversation with MYOB Tech Support, what we found out was this:

If you have accrued state unemployment for the first 2 quarters at 1.3%, and then change the SUI payroll item's rate to 1.0%, the program will attempt to fix the year to date rate to 1.0%. As of now, MYOB has no fix for this. You could increase the limit from \$25,000 to a higher amount, but that could make the system over-accrue some employees, so raising the limit won't solve the problem in the long run. The only way to be certain of accruing the correct amount for State unemployment would be to track it manually for each employee.

If you are entering a transaction in MYOB and want to see what accounts were hit and for how much, go to "Edit", "Recap Transaction" before recording the transaction. Knowing the result of an entry before recording it can save time and trouble later.

Remember, if you are running MYOB on a Macintosh, the data file is compatible with the PC version. So, if you want to send your CPA a disk to review your data file, all you need to do is backup the file using a PC disk.

If you are making collection calls to customers, don't forget that you can record your calls in the Contact Log. This helps you remember the exact conversation the next time you call.

Fraud

Have you received "your" fax today from Nigeria or South Africa promising lots of money to you if you help someone get money out of the country?

Has someone called with an offer too good to be true, but you still want to believe them?

Have you received another Internet Spam offer?

In today's world you must be very cautious as an investor.

Thoroughly research who you deal with. If you don't know the salesperson, especially if they are located out of the state, check with your attorney or accountant before investing. Check with their state's fraud alerts.

We have seen a tremendous increase in very sophisticated frauds over the last year.

Are your folks elderly? Talk to them about these scams now to help protect them. Prepare them for that too good to be true call.

Remember, the better the investment sounds, the more likely it's a scam.

Go to www.doj.state.or.us to check out some Oregon scams.

Fraud